



Mountain Rescue Council

Charity No. 222596

Mountain Rescue Council England & Wales

Incident Report 1994

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MOUNTAIN RESCUE COUNCIL

ENGLAND AND WALES

INCIDENT REPORT 1994

This year's incidents and accidents in England and Wales are summarized as follows: -

	INCIDENTS	FATALITIES	INJURED	TOTAL PERSONS ASSISTED
1994	634	39	486	929
1993	610	53	323	902 excluding non-mountain
1992	649	62	582	998

All clinical diagnoses and causes of incidents; are those made on the spot; not all incidents have follow up reports from a Coroners Court or hospital.

This years figures show a welcome reduction in the number of fatalities in the fell walking category, from 36 in 1993 to 25 in 1994. Heart attacks accounted for 25 of the 1993 deaths, reducing to 18 in 1994. Deaths by misadventure to fell walkers also reduced by 4. Only time will show whether this is a downward trend or only an unusually low figure.

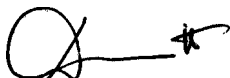
The other activities, climbing and other sports show an increase in paraglider and aquatic activity, although the fatalities remain constant.

An incident has been deemed to occur only when a Team is called out. It can be argued, however, that a call for assistance by a Police Authority, even if the advice is that a call out is not necessary constitutes use of Mountain Rescue resources There has been a total of 18 reported occasions in which advice was sought, mobile telephones used to guide lost souls and teams placed on standby for events which did not subsequently require their services.

As the definition of "Incompetence" provides that a Team should never have been required, the occasions in which "poor footwear" has contributed to the incident are incorporated into this heading.

The Rescue Teams have, during the year, given over 15000 man-hours to 106 non-mountain incidents, involving 11.6 persons, of which 23 were unfortunately fatalities.

Finally, 20 sheep, 4 goats (cragfast), 29 dogs and 2 cows were rescued for local farmers.



D A C Noott.
Hon Statistics Officer.

MOUNTAIN INCIDENT REPORT 1994

Type	Lake Dist	NE Eng	York Dales	Mid Pen	Peak Dist	North Wales	South Wales	SW Eng	Total 1994	Total 1993	Total 1992
ROCK CLIMBING											
Incidents	23	1	3	0	20	5	2	2	56	51	67
Casualties	28	1	3	0	20	11	5	2	70	63	74
Fatalities	(3)	0	0	0	(2)	0	0	0	(5)	(6)	(3)
SNOW/ICE CLIMBING											
Incidents	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	2	2
Casualties	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	2	2
Fatalities	(1)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	(1)	(1)	(1)
FELL WALK (Apr-Oct)											
Incidents	181	14	15	3	24	35	22	9	303	329	242
Casualties	220	29	20	4	24	58	32	78	465	533	219
Fatalities	(6)	0	(1)	0	(1)	(2)	0	0	(10)	(23)	(25)
FELL WALK (Nov-Mar)											
Incidents	87	10	4	2	10	26	12	2	153	138	104
Casualties	171	28	4	2	11	42	25	17	300	201	127
Fatalities	(7)	0	(1)	(1)	(2)	(4)	0	0	(15)	(13)	(6)
SEARCHES INJURED											
Incidents	4	2	1	0	1	3	2	5	18	23	28
Casualties	4	2	1	0	1	7	3	16	34	35	40
Fatalities	(1)	0	(1)	0	(1)	(2)	0	0	(5)	(6)	(1)
SEARCHES UNINJURED											
Incidents	48	13	5	5	5	14	7	5	102	112	166
Persons	128	33	9	9	6	43	36	77	341	328	287
CRAGFAST UNHURT											
Incidents	16	0	0	0	0	3	0	1	20	19	40
Persons	16	0	0	0	0	6	0	1	23	25	65
TOTAL MOUNTAIN											
Incidents	353	30	29	16	76	73	43	14	634	610	649
Persons	451	63	34	19	76	118	70	98	929	902	998
TOTAL INJURED											
Incidents	269	27	20	9	65	58	33	5	486	574	578
FATALITIES											
Mountain	(19)	(1)	(2)	(1)	(6)	(10)	0	0	(39)	(53)	(60)
Non-Mountain	(1)	(4)	0	(4)	(4)	(8)	(1)	(1)	(23)	(17)	
HELICOPTERS (inc Non-Mountain)											
TOTAL	67	7	2	5	11	105	19	4	220	149	
SEARCH	11	2	2	0	1	7	4	0	27	29	111
RESCUE	56	1	0	2	6	95	8	3	171	116	103
NON-MOUNTAIN	0	4	0	3	4	3	4	1	19	12	N/R
SARDA	17	5	6	3	6	10	7	3	57	54	
OTHER ACTIVITIES											
Paragliding	3	0	0	1	4	1	1	0	10	4	
Hang gliding	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	2	2	
Mountain Bike	4	2	1	0	4	0	1	0	12	15	
Trail Bike	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	4	1	
Equestrian	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	3	6	
Orient/Run	10	1	3	4	1	0	0	0	19	15	
Toboggan/Ski	1	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	3	1	
Aquatic	6	1(1)	0	0	0	3(2)	0	0	10(3)	4(2)	
Aircraft	1(1)	0	0	0	1(1)	1(2)	0	0	3(4)		
Occupation	1	0	1	1	0	3	0	0	6		
NON-MOUNTAIN											
Incidents	19	12	1	17	17	16	16	8	106	86	
Persons	30	12	1	15	16	19	15	8	116	87	
Fatalities	(1)	(4)	0	(4)	(4)	(8)	(1)	(1)	(23)	(16)	
SARDA	2	8	0	12	14	8	10	7	61	48	

FREQUENCY OF INJURIES - ENGLAND AND WALES 1994

Type	Fell Walking Winter	Fell Walking Summer	Rock Climb	Snow /Ice Climb	Other Sports	Total 1994	Total 1993	Total 1992	Total 1991	Total 1990
Lower Leg, Knee & Foot	51	125	19	1	25	221	210	184	117	152
Upper leg	5	3	2	1	3	14	13	50	43	43
Pelvis & Spine	5	3	11	1	4	24	13	18	20	20
Chest	2	8	2	1	4	17	8	5	4	12
Back - Bruising	6	2	4	0	5	17	14	15	15	18
Back - Fracture	1		3	0	3	7	3	8	3	3
Neck		1	1	0	0	2	8	0	0	
Internal	1	2	2	1	2	8	2	8	5	4
Arm & Shoulder	7	11	7	0	5	30	54	29	25	16
Head fatal No helmet	0	0	2	0	1	3	6	15	13	5
Head fatal With helmet	0	0	1	0	1	2	0	2	6	3
Head injury No helmet	13	13	9	1	1	52	41	43	40	36
Head injury With helmet	0	0	2	1	1	4	7	7	7	7
Multiple Abrasions	7	21	3	0	5	21	18	14	10	8
Exhaustion Summer	0	13	0	0	3	16	14	23	19	31
Exhaustion Winter	4	0	0	0	0	4	3	10	13	7
Hypothermia Fatal Summer	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	2	2	1
Hypothermia Fatal Winter	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	3	2
Hypothermia Non-Fatal Summer	0	14	0	0	1	15	8	23	12	16
Hypothermia Non-Fatal Winter	5	0	0	0	0	5	7	30	22	11
Heart Attack Fatal	12	6	0	0	0	18	25	28	26	13
Heart attack Non-fatal	0	7	0	0	0	7	10	14	13	6
Illness	9	29	0	0	0	38	22	39	34	33
Drowning Mountain	0	1	0	0	2	3	5	5	4	
Drowning Non-mountain						7				

MAIN CAUSES OF ACCIDENTS - ENGLAND AND WALES 1994

	TOTALS 1994	TOTALS 1993	TOTALS 1992	TOTALS 1991	TOTALS 1990
Slips fell walking poor footwear (now recorded elsewhere)		N/R	102	103	122
Slips fell walking snow/ice conditions	26	35	14	11	10
No axe ±crampons	25	33	8	5	6
Falls rock climbing or abseiling					
Roped	8	11	16	22	17
Solo	45	40	13	25	22
Falls ice/snow climbing or abseiling					
Roped	1	0	3	4	3
Solo	2	2	2	4	1
Belay or runner failure					
Climbing	11	4	17	12	17
Abseiling	0	2	5	4	2
Rock fall	7	3	8	6	6
Avalanche	1	0	2	5	0
Collapses (medical)					
Fatal	18	25	26	27	14
Non-fatal	45	15	48	11	37
Inexperience/ignorance/incompetence & footwear					
April-October	35	20	91	100	118
November-March	23	8	53	55	68
Suicide	2	2	4	13	7
Attempted suicide	?	?	8	5	8
Lightning strike	0	0	0	0	0
Aircraft	3(4)	2(3)			
False alarm	47	30			
Hoax	2	3			
Other sport	64	47			
Occupation	3				